

INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL **COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

COMMITTEE **Quality Assurance and Personnel and Program Standards**

RECORDER Peter Guerrero **DATE** May 17, 2001

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESENT: Marie Kanne Poulsen, Co-Chair, Cheri Schoenborn, Susan Ferrell, James Cleveland, Linda Landry, Wally Olsen, Lois Pastore, Kris Pilkington, Julie Woods and Ruth Cook

STAFF: Peter Guerrero and Virginia Reynolds

DDS LIAISON(S): Debby Reath

ABSENT: Brigitte Ammons Livia Faure-Gault, Fran Hill, Sharon Tettegah, Toni Doman, Fran Chasen, and Ken Freedlander

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Ellie Lynch and Dona Meinders, EI Distance Learning Project,

GUESTS: Nina Garrett, Jane Nelson, SDRC and Linda Brault CIHS-Sonoma State University

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT POINTS & ACTIONS CONSIDERED

I. Introductions and opening comments:

The committee was called to order at 1:45 PM. Committee members and guests introduced themselves and their agency affiliation. Ellie Lynch, San Diego State University and Dona Meinders, WestEd, who will be presenting on the Early Intervention Distance Learning Project, were welcomed to the meeting.

II. Agenda Review:

The proposed agenda was reviewed. Marie Poulson suggested the following additions to the agenda: Program Standards for Child-Care, Birth to 16, published by CDE/Child Development Division and Review of Mental Health Screening tool for relevance to 0-3 Early Start population.

III. Review and approve minutes:

Minutes were reviewed and approved without additions/changes

IV. Committee Tasks and Activities

- A) **Complaints Update:** Cheri Schoenborn will present this update on Friday to the Full ICC for the period July 1-December 31, 2000. Cheri did review Due Process and Mediation procedures but the consensus of the committee was

that she should save any preliminary remarks regarding findings for the full report. Discussion of the report will be on the agenda for the next QA meeting and will include trends and a comparison of past six-month's complaint patterns, issues and resolutions.

- B) Natural Environments Update: The Chair asked representatives of the regional centers and vendored programs to discuss how funds earmarked to assist programs in their transition to providing services in Natural Environments. Susan Ferrell described FNRCs request to specialist (OT, PT and Speech and Language Pathologists) service providers to submit a letter of interest identifying resources that would assist them in providing services in NEs. Five responses were received. For less than \$4800.00 all providers have made a commitment to, and have begun, shifting at least 50% of service provision to the family home. She stated that the recent NE Forum and the concept of Natural Environments in Everyday Routines, Relationships, Activities, Places and Partnerships (ERRAPP) lent support to the effort. Funds were used to purchase educational materials (books and videos to leave at the home), lap top computers for intervention support, carts to pull materials, etc. Grants ranged from \$500 to \$6500.

Discussion: NE concept is at core of service delivery and emphasis is to "coach through the process, not create NEs." A letter from DDS did lend support to the idea that specialist services need not be provided in NE's as these are more akin to medical appointments/services. Cheri acknowledged this opinion letter. Home based IDPs did not request funds that may assist them in exploring other natural environments. The discussion identified a need to focus on home visiting training as an important support mechanism. This is part of the larger issue in providing EI services in the NE, challenges, shift of focus from "tools" to "relationships" as the primary vehicle for delivery of EI services, and supervision, boundary issues and on-going provider and family support such as mentoring.

Nina Garrett provided an overview of what San Diego is doing in the San Diego and Imperial County service areas. Participants from their areas went to the NE Forum in Burbank and came back with ideas. Three programs (combination in-home and center-based), ARC, Logan Heights Comprehensive Clinic and Imperial County Office of Education received awards totaling more than the amount allotted by DDS. Jim Cleveland shared that each of these programs attended the NE Forum. The goal is to phase out center based services for infants and toddlers as separated service locations totally. Programs purchased mobile equipment (phones, beepers, vans and equipment to do mobile play settings for all children in different neighborhoods, etc.). Space currently used for CB services will be used for other programs such as parent training and support. The Logan program serving many monolingual Spanish speaking families will use a van and

equipment to do training with families and staff. They will use funds also to develop training films.

Marie Paulson suggested capturing what areas are doing with the funds and sharing it with areas around the State. This would be a good way to demonstrate administrative support and commitment to providing services in natural environments.

Kris Pilikington stated that the Tri-Counties areas and possibly some others were not informed about the available NE support funds from RCs. She also shared that vendors from the Tri-Counties area got together and are in agreement around personnel standards. They are trying to identify needed changes and training needs.

Teacher Preparation: Cheri asked to hear how teacher preparation programs are addressing the issue. Kris Pilkington shared information about a field-based practicum, Ruth Cook shared that candidates have a "shadowing practicum" in NE and Ellie Lynch shared remarks about similar teacher training experiences.

Resources: Wally shared that a DOE publication entitled _____ has been reissued. Lois Pastore shared Hope's new brochure and the brochure the program developed in the pre-NE days. The new brochure is very relationship based and family centered. Kris Pilkington sent around a copy of Sojourn's brochure as well. These will be attached to the minutes.

Cheri told the group that the recent NE Forum received a very positive response from participants. She requested that a copy of the evaluation report prepared by WestEd as a product of the forum be included in the minutes. A second NE Forum is planned for northern California due to the overwhelming response and requests to repeat the training. The event was to take place in August but may be rescheduled to the end of September due to speaker non-availability in August.

Update: NE Forum - North will be September 24-25 at the South San Francisco Conference Center.
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She also said that the Department will want to see what communities are doing in their efforts toward fully implementing ERRAPP and emphasized that NEs are not "created" and that successful programs will embrace the "goodness of fit" concept into intervention strategies.

- C. SDR Update: Cheri will be making a comprehensive report to the full ICC on Friday. The revised report is available on the DDS web site. The process has entered into a 60-day public comment period. July 17 is the deadline for input. Input will be included as an addendum to the final report that will go to

the Legislature. Cheri will send copies of the current edition of the SDR report to QA committee members. She hopes that the report will have an impact and reminded the group that this first report focuses on adult consumers of the regional centers.

- D. Early Intervention Distance Learning Project: Ellie Lynch and Dona Meinders shared information and a brochure about the Distance Learning Project which is partnering with several Universities to provide "training to Early Intervention Personnel based upon the EI Personnel Model" in line with the Standards for the EI-1 position, to cohorts of students in various parts of the State. This is a five-year, \$300,000.00 collaborative project with OSEP, DDS, WestEd/CSPD and Universities. One-half of the funds go to student support. Outline and brochure will be attached to these minutes.

Discussion points:

- Consider offering a partnership with parents/FRCNs to audit course on families
- Current credential holders could access DL program to get EI course work credit.
- Expand the effort to offer the mental health practitioners, pediatricians, and other specialists who don't have background or preparation.
- Write up the program process as a product for application to the preparation programs and target populations.
- Make this available through any university in which a person may be enrolled.

V. Other

1. Program Standards for Child Care, 0-16. Deferred to next QA meeting. It was recommended that someone be invited to present at the next meeting. Marie Poulson had spoken recently to Michael Jett at CSPDAC regarding the QA committee's interest in addressing the topic.

2. Mental Health Screening Tool: Marie Poulson shared a copy of a Mental Health Screening Tool developed to identify children in the Foster Care System requiring referral for mental health services. She is interested in getting committee input on the appropriateness of using portions of this tool for use in identifying ES children, 0-3, who may need referral to MH services. Discussion ensued and the consensus was that the tool, excluding Section One, would be helpful with some minor editing.

VI: Next ICC Meeting is scheduled for July 26-27, 2001 in Sacramento at the Governor's Inn. QA Committee will meet on the afternoon of the 26th.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Attachments